

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

The California Highway Patrol is a law enforcement and traffic safety agency reporting to Business, Transportation and Housing Agency Secretary Maria Contreras-Sweet and Governor Gray Davis.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

02-25

June 28, 2002

CHP OFFERS CHILD SAFETY SEAT ASSISTANCE AT LOCAL OFFICES

SACRAMENTO -- Parents can get help in the proper way to secure their children in vehicle safety seats under a California Highway Patrol (CHP) program beginning July 1 which establishes a child safety seat fitting station in every local office.

Each of the CHP's 99 Area offices will designate one day a week when the public can schedule an appointment to have child safety seats inspected and get instruction and assistance with the installation of the seats in their vehicle.

"A child safety seat can make the difference between a safe, healthy child and one that's injured or killed," said CHP Commissioner D. O. "Spike" Helmick. "The more children who are properly buckled up, the fewer will be at risk in a vehicle collision."

The safety seat fitting stations will be staffed by CHP technicians certified by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Staff training includes a standardized 40-hour course that qualifies the instructor to educate parents in the proper seat for the vehicle, correct seat installation and secure placement of the child in the seat.

"Recent statistics show that over 80 percent of children in vehicles are unrestrained or buckled up incorrectly," Helmick said.

Those who want assistance with safety and booster seat questions may schedule an appointment at their local CHP office. A list of office locations and telephone numbers is available in the telephone directory or on the CHP Web site at www.chp.ca.gov.
